Support for the new claims:

The amendments are supported, for example, on page 17 lines 8-11, and thus they do not

constitute new matter. The new claims are supported in the claims as filed and in the

specification at, for example, page 18 lines 11-21, and thus they do not constitute new matter.

Objection to the Disclosure

The Applicants have stricken the web site address as requested by the patent office. The

Applicants note that this information is not necessary to support the claims presented in the

application. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Rejection under 35 USC 102

The patent office rejected claims 6-10, 17, and 24 under 35 USC 102(b) based on the

assertion that the Miner reference teaches isolated mouse laminin heterotrimers. The Applicants

traverse this rejection, but have nonetheless amended the claims to obviate the rejection. Thus,

the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Based on the above, the Applicants believe that the application is in condition for

allowance. If the Examiner believes that an interview would accelerate prosecution of the

Application, she is invited to contact the below-signed attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

McDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF

11/15/04

David S. Harper

Reg. No. 42,636